that of the pre-nineteenth century West. In it has been much of superstition, but that was also the case in the Occident. Charms have beep extensively employed and gods have been asked to indicate which of several medicines shall be taken. Dissection was not practised, at least of late centuries, and the knowledge of anatomy was correspondingly imperfect. Anaesthetics are said to have been used in surgery as early as the Han. For many centuries what is known as acupuncture has been extensively followed—& procedure by which the flesh is pierced with needles for many different illnesses. Another favorite therapeutic measure, very ancient, has been burning on the body cones of *artemesia moxa* or common mugwort and thus raising blisters with the effect of counter-irritation or cauterization. Massage has long been employed. Inoculation against smallpox (not vaccination) is said to have been known as early as the Sung. The *yin* and the *yang* permeated both theory and practice. So also did the theory of the five elements. Much, too, was made of the pulse in obtaining a diagnosis, the belief being that by taking it in different ways the state of the principal internal organs of the body could be determined. Certain readings could be made from the pulse in the left wrist and others from that in the right wrist. At least in the Sung and the Yuan imperial medical colleges were conducted. As a rule, however, medical education was by apprenticeship and no state or privately administered examinations existed to standardize the profession. Practitioners, accordingly, varied widely in preparation, traveling quacks abounded, and the patient often suffered more from the treatment than from the disease. The pharmacopoeia included many remedies which depended for their sup-

posed efficacy upon thoroughly fanciful theories. It is highly doubtful, for example, whether the much esteemed ginseng has any value beyond that of mental suggestion. But for the fact that the Chinese, by long contact with many virulent diseases, haa developed a partial immunity to some of them, the death rate would have been much higher than it was. Yet when all is said which can be brought as an indictment against the traditional medical literature and practice, and it is much, the fact remains that the Chinese acquired and transmitted a great deal of valuable lore. Their pharmacopoeia contained many useful drugs and their methods of treatment not infrequently produced excellent results. It has not been uncommon after the introduction of